

THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTING UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA



Affiliated to:
MUZZLE LOADERS ASSOCIATIONS' INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION (MLAIC)
SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION (SABU)
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BPSU NEWSFLASH 1 OF 2024

Casper Jan Hendrik du Plessis

(21/07/1956-28/01/2024)

Good day BPSU members

This is quite a sad note to start 2024 with. One of our Western Cape Black Powder stalwarts, Casper du Plessis, lost his battle with cancer on 28 January 2024 after a short, but brave fight. He was only diagnosed in November 2023.

Casper was well-known in .22, Air Rifle and Black Powder shooting for many years. He coached many junior shooters to Protea status and also attained his own Protea colours as manager and coach for Air Rifle in 2015. As such, he accompanied the Junior Protea teams to the Netherlands, Wales, Austria, Egypt, amongst others.

In 2014 Casper also took up Black Powder shooting and initially excelled with his single shot black powder pistol. He then bought a Pedersoli Gibbs and worked tirelessly to make it shoot properly and did not leave any stone unturned in the process. Even if it meant taking some lock parts from a pistol and make it fit in a rifle or use avocado oil to lubricate his barrel 😊.

He attained Western Cape Federation colours for Black Powder in 2016 and was a regular competitor at club, provincial and national championships. He also served on both Western Cape Black Powder Association and the national BPSU executive committees, representing Bellville Pistol Club.

Through his coaching, four juniors converted from shooting Air Rifle to Black Powder and attained Junior Protea colours to compete in MLAIC World Championships with rifles and pistols. Casper had a way to connect to the juniors and they adored him.

Casper was a unique person, always ready to tease, always ready with a joke or a prank. He truly loved shooting and many youngsters will fondly remember him helping them to reach great heights through his mentoring and coaching. There is one specific firing point on Range A1 at Bellville Pistol Range and one on Range 1 at Atlantis that Casper always used and that will always be Casper's Spots our hearts. We will miss him tremendously, with his massive presence and all his antics ❤️.

One doesn't always understand why things happen when and how they do, but I believe our Heavenly Father knows better and He gave Casper enough time to live his life to the fullest. And when it became time to say goodbye, there was sufficient time for family and friends to spend special time with him for one last time, but his suffering was mercifully not prolonged.

We say goodbye to Casper, but he will never be forgotten. Rest in peace, Casper, your black powder family will look after Carien and support her wherever and whenever she needs us 😞.

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Kind Regards 

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